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37 C.F.R. 1.8

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March 23, 2004
Date


Steven L. Highlander

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Barney GRAHAM, Tara GOWER and
Manoj PASTEY

Serial No.: 09/981,682

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: METHOD OF INHIBITING VIRAL
INFECTION USING HMG-COA
REDUCTASE INHIBITORS AND
ISOPRENYLATION INHIBITORS

Group Art Unit: 1617

Examiner: S.A. Jiang

Atty. Dkt. No.: VBLT:003US/SLH

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO
OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 2, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicants petition for an extension of time of one month to and including August 11, 2001 in which to respond to the Office Action dated October 2, 2003.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, a check in the amount of \$640.00 is enclosed, which includes the process fee (\$475.00) for a three-month extension of time.

03/29/2004 AWONDAF1 00000057 09981682

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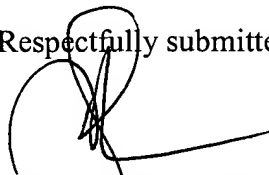
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If the check is inadvertently omitted, or should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, or should an overpayment be included herein, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct or credit said fees from or to Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P. Account No.: 50-1212/VBLT:003US/SLH.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven L. Highlander
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Attorney for Applicants

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Date: March 23, 2004